

Title of the Course:

History of West Asia

Compulsory course

For

M.A. (International Relations-West Asian Studies)

Course No: MWAS-
Semester- I

Centre for West Asian Studies
Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

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Course Description

This course begins with the rise of Islam and take into account development in the West Asian region till world war II. It deals with the transformation of the region under the impact of Islam. It also aims to familiarize students encounter of the West Asian region with the growing and expansionist Europe/West, its consequences upon the region and attempts and struggle to cope up with the challenge. It would also take into account role of various ideologies, conflicts and the oil factor.

Course Content

Unit I: Emergence of Islam and the State Formation

- Socio-economic conditions in pre-Islamic Arabia
- State and institutions in Early Islamic Period
- Socio-economic and Governance system during Umayyad
- State and Institutions and Governance System during Abbasid Period

UNIT II: Age of the Muslim Empires: The Ottomans and Safavids

- Emergence of the Ottomans as European and Asiatic Power
- Causes for the Rise of the Ottomans
- State and Institutions under the Ottomans

- Emergence of Safavids in Iran

Unit III: The Ottoman Encounter with the Imperial Europe

- Eastern Question and Major European Powers
- Invasion of Egypt by Napoleon Bonaparte and its Impact
- Major European Powers and the Ottoman Empire
- Eastern Question and its Consequences
- Impact of Nationalism (Christian and Arab) on the Ottoman Empire
- Ottoman Empire and Issues of Reform: Ideological Debate
- Pan-Islamism: Response to the European Expansionist Design

Unit IV: Major European Powers and Dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire

- European Powers and World War I: Conspiracies and Contradictory Promises
- Britain and the Arab Revolt: Hussein-Mac Mahon Correspondence
- Zionism and Balfour Treachery
- Sykes-Picot Agreement
- Turkish War of Independence
- Emergence of Modern Turkey and Turkish Nationalism
- Causes of the End of the Ottoman Empire

Reading List

- Antonius, George, *The Arab Awakening: The Story of the Arab National Movement*
- Azmi, Rafiullah. *Conflict in the Gulf: British Quest for Domination and Ottoman Response*, Delhi, Academic Excellence, 2004.
- Berberoglu, Berch, *Turmoil in the Middle East: Imperialism, War and Political Instability*, State University of New York Press, 1999
- Chomsky, Noam. *The Fateful Triangle: The United States, Israel and Palestinians*. London, Pluto Press, 1983.
- Choueiri, Youssef M. *Arab History and Nation State: A study in Modern Arab Historiography 1820-1980*, London, Routledge, 1980.
- Cleveland, William L. *A History of the Modern Middle East*. Oxford, West View Press, 1994.
- Dawn, C. Ernest. *From Ottomanism To Arabism: Essay on the Origins of Arab Nationalism*. Illinois, University of Illinois Press, 1973.
- Fromkin, David. *A Peace to End all Peace: The Fall of the Ottoman Empire and the Creation of the Modern Middle East*. Owl Books, Paperback 2001(New York: Avon Books, 1989)
- Gilmour, David. *The Dispossessed: The Ordeals of the Palestinians 1917-80*. London, Sidgwick & Jackson, 1980.
- Hirst, David. *Oil and Public Opinion in the Middle East*. New York, Praeger, 1966.

- ----- , *the Gun and the Olive Branch: The Roots of Violence in the Middle East*, London: Faber and Faber, 1984 (See for Theodore Herzl's policy of uprooting Palestinians)
- Hourani, A.H. *The Emergence of the Modern Middle East*. London, Macmillan, 1981.
- -----*A History of the Arab Peoples*. London, Faber and Faber, 1991.
- Hourani, Albert, Khoury, Philip and Wilson, Mary C. (Eds.), *The Modern Middle East: A Reader*. London, I.B. Tauris, 2004.
- Kamrava, Mehran (2005), *The Modern Middle east: A Political history since the First World war* (University of California press: Berkeley)
- Kedouri, E . *England and the Middle East: the Destruction of the Ottoman Empire, 1914-1921*. London, The Harvester Press, 1996
- Kent, Morian, *The Great Powers and the End of the Ottoman Empire*. 1984
- Lewis, Bernard. *The Arabs in History*. Oxford University Press, 1994
- Lewis, Bernard, *The Middle East: 2000 Years of History from the Rise of Christianity to the Present Day*, Weidenfeld & Nicholson, 1996, 433 pages, (Simon Schuster, 1996, have Xeroxed copy)
- Mansfield, Peter, *A History of the Middle East*, Penguin, 2004, pages 448. The book has been edited and updated by Nicholas Pelham.
- Mansfield, Peter (ed) *The Middle East: a Political and Economic Survey*, 5th Ed. Oxford University Press, 1980
- Monroe, Elizabeth. *Britain's Moment in the Middle East 1914-71*. London, Chatto and Windus, new Ed. 1981.
- Nevakivi, Jukka. *Britain, France and the Arab Middle East 1914-20*. Athlone Press, University of London, 1969.
- Palmer, Alan, *The Decline and Fall of the Ottoman Empire*. London, John Murray, 1992.
- Pappé, Ilan. *The Modern Middle East*, Abingdon, Routledge, 20005.
- Pamuk, Sevket, *A Monetary History of the Ottoman Empire*, Cambridge, 2002
- Quataert, Donald, *the Ottoman Empire, 1700-1922*
- Quandt, William B. *Peace Process: American Diplomacy and the Arab Israel Conflict since 1967*. Berkeley, CA, University of California Press, 2001.
- Rubin, Barry M. *The Arab States and the Palestine Conflict*. New York, Syracuse University Press, 1991.
- Said, Edward, *the Politics of Dispossession, the Struggle for Palestinian Self-determination*
- ----- *The Orientalism, Western Conception of the Orient, Delhi: Penguin, 2011*
- ----- *Culture and Imperialism, RHUK, 1994*
- ----- *Covering Islam: How the Media and the Experts Determine how we see the rest of the world, fully revised , paperback, Vintage, 1997*
- Yapp, M. E. *The Near East since the First World War*. London, Longman 1991.
- Yergin, Daniel. *The Prize: the Epic Quest For Oil, Money and Power*. New York, Simon and Schuster, 1990.
- Zeine, Z.N. *The Struggle for Arab Independence*. Beirut, 1960.

Method of Instruction:

Lectures and Tutorials will be held on a weekly basis. Questions, Discussion and debate during classes will be strongly encouraged. Students are expected to keep informed of the current events in the West Asian Region.

There will be four lecture of one hour each per week. Students would be encouraged to ask questions, discuss and debate during class. Students would be expected to follow developments related to the West Asian region through multiple sources and look actively for analytical articles on topics in the course.

Method of Assessment:

A mid-term exam would consist of essay questions based upon the topics covered upto that point. It will be of 25 marks and student must answer two question out of 4 of 12.5 marks each. The final exam would be conducted according to a schedule at the end of the semester will be of 75 marks. In the final exam, student must answer 5 out of 10 questions.

The students would be assessed on the basis of a written assignment/term paper and also presentation of the same of 20 marks, 5 marks for active participation in the class and end sem. exam of 75 marks based on descriptive questions. The formats for writing term paper will be discussed in the class. The term paper will be presented in seminar mode on a mutually agreed dates between the teacher and students.